



USDA Foreign Agricultural Service

GAIN Report

Global Agriculture Information Network

Template Version 2.09

Voluntary Report - public distribution

Date: 8/9/2005

GAIN Report Number: TH5076

Thailand

Grain and Feed

Weekly Rice Price Update

2005

Approved by:

Rodrick McSherry, Agricultural Counselor
U.S. Embassy, Bangkok

Prepared by:

Ponnarong Prasertsri, Agricultural Specialist

Report Highlights:

Export prices continued to surge, as exporters were securing rice supplies for shipments during the peak season. Meanwhile, the Government and local millers are still holding the stocks.

Includes PSD Changes: No
Includes Trade Matrix: No
Unscheduled Report
Bangkok [TH1]
[TH]

Indicative Prices (Week Ending Aug 8):

Thailand: Export (FOB) Prices for various grades of rice (USD/M.T.)									
	Exporter Observations							Period Avg.	
	#1	#2	#3	#4	#5	#6	#7	CUR.	PRV.
F WR 100 B	422	390	407	429	430	405	410	413	410
WR 100 B	290	290	294	290	287	287	285	289	287
PB 5%	281	287	282	289	286	286	275	284	279
WR 5%	285	285	291	284	281	281	280	284	281
WR 10%	280	277	286	281	278	279	275	279	277
WR 15%	270	274	281	279	268	268	270	273	268
WR 25%	258	261	273	276	253	255	265	263	258
WR 35%	256	-	-	271	251	253	260	258	252
A 1 SUP	214	217	-	215	214	215	210	214	210
A 1 SPEC	212	215	-	214	212	-	208	212	208
Source: Average actual prices received from exporters									

Market Tone

Export prices for most grades of rice continued to surge in response to limited exportable supplies. Trade sources reported that exporters were securing rice supplies to meet seasonal import demand from African buyers who need to build up stocks in advance of Ramadan, by September. However, local millers and traders are still holding the stocks, as the Government remains uncertain about the plan for the intervention stock release. In addition, the intervention policy is expected to continue for 2005/06 crop because domestic price stabilization is the top priority of the Government. Also, further strengthening Thai Baht to around 41 baht/\$US still contributes to current high quotations.

The following are the reported rice exports (as is basis):

WEEK ENDING	QUANTITY	4-WK AVG	YEAR TO DATE	YEAR AGO
	(MT)	(MT)	(TMT)	(TMT)
JUN 19	112,817	100,720	2,545	3,280
JUN 26	69,849	102,321	2,614	3,457
JUL 3	107,829	104,676	2,722	3,664
JUL 10	92,405	95,725	2,815	3,831
JUL 17	101,983	93,016	2,917	4,009
JUL 24	83,854	96,518	3,000	4,201
JUL 31	79,477	89,430	3,080	4,400
AUG 7	90,466	88,945	3,170	4,545

Note on data: Export figures since March 22, 2002, do not include fragrant rice. The authority to report fragrant rice exports was moved from the Thai Board of Trade to the Ministry of Commerce's Office of Commodity Standards, which does not release official fragrant rice export data. FAS/BKK will report only official export numbers from the Board of Trade for non-fragrant and from the Office of Commodity Standards for fragrant rice when available, but the reader should bear in mind the difference between the data.

Unofficial exports (excluding fragrant rice) for Aug. 1-7, 2005 totaled 90,466 tons, up 10,988 tons from the previous week's total and up 1,521 tons from the four-week moving average of 88,945 tons. Exports during Jan. 1 – Aug. 7, 2005 amounted to 3,170,374 tons, as compared with 4,544,585 tons in the previous year.

According to the Department of Foreign Trade, Ministry of Commerce, total rice exports (including fragrant rice) during Jan. 1 – Jul 27, 2005, amounted to 4,207,579 tons, down 24 percent from 5,501,632 tons in the previous year.

Weekly Rice Sales

Private registered rice export sales for the period of Jul. 18-22, Jul. 25-29, and Aug. 1-5, 2005 are as follows:

Movement (MT)	Jul. 18-22	Jul. 25-29	Aug. 1-5
weekly sales	81,482	118,313	79,049
4 week sum	408,002	426,806	407,574
4 week mov. avg.	102,001	106,702	101,894
Total weekly sales	3,091,601	3,209,914	3,288,936

End of Report.